THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) As per the latest available data the balance of payments position during April-December 1999-2000 is as under :

(In US $ billion)

	April-December 1999-2000
1. Exports f.o.b.	27.98
2. Imports c.i.f.	39.32
of which POL	6.98
3. Trade Balance	-11.34
4. Invisibles (net)	7.25
5. Current Account Balance	-4.09
6. External Assistance (net)	0.47
7. Commercial Borrowing (net)	-0.14
8. IMF (net)	-0.23
9. Non-resident Deposits (net)	1.49
10. Rupee Debt Service	-0.57
11. Foreign Investment (net)	3.15
12. Other flows (net)	2.74
13. Capital Account Total (net)	6.90
14. Reserve Use (-increase)	-2.81

Source : RBI, Mumbai.

As per the latest information, the foreign exchange reserves during the full year 1999-2000 have increased by US $ 5.55 billion. As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, provisional data for the full year April-March 1999-2000, the value of exports is US $ 37.54 billion and that for imports is US $ 46.15 billion.

(c) No separate list of imports of luxury goods is maintained.

Export-Import Performance

*585. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) what has been the export-import performance during the last five years;

(b) the details of targets fixed for exports and imports during this period; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to improve the balance of trade and balance of payment position of our country ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The targets for export of goods set for the years 1995-96 to 1999-2000 and the actual performance of exports as per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics data in US $ terms is as under :—

Year	Export targets (in US $ million)	Target growth Rate (%)	Export performance (in US $ million)	Export growth (%)
1995-96	30712	17.0	31797	20.8
1996-97	38259	20.0	33470	5.3
1997-98	39052	18.0	35006	4.6
1998-99	38282	12.7	33219	(-)5.1
1999-2000	37400	11.3	37538*	11.6*

No targets are fixed for imports. The import performance in the last five years is as under :—

Year	Import performance (in US $ million)	Import growth (%)
1995-96	36678	28.0
1996-97	39132	6.7
1997-98	41484	6.0
1998-99	42389	2.2
1999-2000	46154*	10.2*

*Provisional.

(c) A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures from time to time. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions. The balance of payments position during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 remained comfortable. The Government and the Reserve Bank of India monitor the position constantly and steps/measures are taken, as and when necessary, to make the BOP position of the country comfortable.

Outstanding Dues Towards Exempted PF Account of Jessop and Company Ltd.

*587. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 307 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th December 1999, and state :

(a) the position of outstanding dues towards exempted PF Account of Jessop and Company Ltd. as on 31st March, 2000;

(b) the arrangement made, so far, for liquidation of dues as per the statement made in response to the aforesaid question;

(c) whether the revival scheme has been recast, as stated in the above reply; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) The total outstanding P.F. dues of Jessop as on 31-3-2000 is Rs. 47.42 crore. The problems still beset the Company in generating cash flow as envisaged in the revival scheme. However, through the intervention of the Ministry, the company has received orders for a lot of 397.5 Four Wheeler Units (FWUs) from Ministry of Railways for the year 2000-01. Discussions have been initiated with the banks with a view to place the revival scheme on the sounder footing. Meantime, Government have constituted a Group of Ministers (GOM) to go into the issue of outstanding statutory dues of all Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) including Jessops with a view to evolving appropriate arrangement for liquidating these dues.